Changes in Patent Laws

1727. SHRI. P. UPENDRA:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI G.G. SWELL:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that although a developing country like India has ten more years to change patent laws, Government is seeking to make changes immediately;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Patent Bill passed by Lok Sabha would amount to granting exclusive market rights to patent holders in agriculture and pharmaceuticals with immediate effect; and

(d) whether the patent holders are permitted to charge any price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The changes proposed in patents law are in accordance with the transition periods stipulated in the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.

(c) The grant of exclusive marketing rights in the fields of drug or medicine will be subject to the fulfilment of the conditions specified in the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1995.

(d) In the Patents (Amendment) Bill, 1995, provision has been incorporated in the public interest where Central Government can direct the selling or distribution of an article or a substance for which an exclusive marketing right has been granted, at a price determined by an authority specified by it.

New Scheme for Integrated Infrastructural Development

1730. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new scheme of Integrated Infrastructural Development was launched recently to strengthen the infrastructural facilities in 50 centres in rural and backward areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how many of these centres are in NE Region; and

(d) the progress made so far under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) A New Scheme of Integrated Infrastructural Development (including technological back up services) for small scale industries was approved by the Government on 23rd February, 1994. The Scheme envisages to set up about 50 centres in rural/backward areas, excluding those districts having Growth Centres during the Eighth Five Year Plan period. The cost of each project not exceeding Rs. 5 crores would be financed jointly by the Central Government and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in the form of grant and loan respectively in the ratio of 2:3. Cost in excess of Rs. 5 crores would be met by State Government/Implementing Agencies. The State/UT Governments are to nominate suitable agencies having good track record for implementing the projects under the scheme. State Governments are to provide suitable land for the projects the cost of which may be recovered from the implementing agencies.

Since the launching of the scheme, following 13 projects have been sanctioned:

	State	Location	Implementing Agency	Project Cost (in lakhs)
1.	Rajasthan	Sangaria (Jodhpur)	RIICO	514.00
2.	Haryana	Khairpur (Sirsa)	HSIDC	376.00
3.	Gujarat	Miyani (Junagadh)	GGCDC	500.00
4.	Maharashtra	Yavathmal (Pusad)	MIDC	518.00
5.	J&K	Batal (Udhampur)	JKSSIDC	500.00
6.	Kerala	Kazhakuttom (Trivandrum)	KINFRA	502.00
7.	Karnataka	Kanbargi (Belgaum)	KIADB	569.00
8.	Tamil Nadu	Urangampatti (Madurai)	TANSIDCO	444.00
9.	Andhra Pradesh	Udamalpuram (Kurnoonl)	APIIC	246.51
10.	Punjab	Tanda (Hoshiarpur)	PSIDC	280.00
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Kasna (Bulandhshahr)	GNIDA	638.00
12.	Daman & Diu (UT)	Ringanwada	OIDC	537.00
13.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli (UT)	Velugam	OIDC	537.00

Government of India grant alongwith the corresponding SIDBI loan have been released to 8 Projects depending upon the progress of implementation. Documents relating to loan etc. are under execution in respect of 5 Projects. The Projects are under various stages of implementation.

A Project proposal from the Government of Manipur is under examination by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). Assam and other State Governments of North Eastern Region have requested that grant-loan norms under this scheme should be made more favourable as it is difficult to have bankable projects within the existing norms. The suggestion of North Eastern States is being examined.

Militants' Threat to Stop Amar Nath Yatra

1731. SHRI JAGMOHAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Harkt-Ul-Ansar and other militant organisations in Kashmir have threatened to stop this year's Amar Nath Yatra;

(b) whether a similar attitude was adopted last ycar by these organisations and civil staff of Kashmir Division had also refused to cooperate in making arrangements for the Yatra and the Army